

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): A device comprising:
a fiber optic cable having a fiber optic connector;
a transponder attached to the fiber optic connector;
a substrate adapted for attachment to a panel of a host device;
an antenna attached to the substrate; and
a transceiver electrically connected to the antenna so as to form a reader which is capable
of activating and interrogating the transponder when the transponder is sufficiently close to the
antenna, and wherein
the fiber optic cable has a length, and wherein
~~A device according to Claim 10 wherein~~ the transponder includes information related to
the length of the fiber optic cable.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A device comprising:
a fiber optic cable having a fiber optic connector;
a transponder attached to the fiber optic connector;
a substrate adapted for attachment to a panel of a host device;
an antenna attached to the substrate; and
a transceiver electrically connected to the antenna so as to form a reader which is capable
of activating and interrogating the transponder when the transponder is sufficiently close to the
antenna, and wherein
the fiber optic connector conforms to an industrial standard, and wherein
~~A device according to Claim 12 wherein~~ the transponder includes information related to
the industrial standard to which the fiber optic connector conforms.

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): A device comprising:
a fiber optic cable having a fiber optic connector;
a transponder attached to the fiber optic connector;
a substrate adapted for attachment to a panel of a host device;
an antenna attached to the substrate; and
a transceiver electrically connected to the antenna so as to form a reader which is capable
of activating and interrogating the transponder when the transponder is sufficiently close to the
antenna, and wherein

the fiber optic cable includes an optical fiber, and wherein the optical fiber conforms to a predetermined optical fiber grade, and wherein

~~A device according to Claim 14 wherein~~ the transponder includes information related to the predetermined optical fiber grade of the optical fiber of the fiber optic cable.

Claim 16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (currently amended): A device comprising:

a fiber optic cable having a fiber optic connector;

a transponder attached to the fiber optic connector;

a substrate adapted for attachment to a panel of a host device;

an antenna attached to the substrate; and

a transceiver electrically connected to the antenna so as to form a reader which is capable of activating and interrogating the transponder when the transponder is sufficiently close to the antenna, and wherein

the fiber optic cable was purchased on a specified date, and wherein

~~A device according to Claim 16 wherein~~ the transponder includes information related to the specific purchase date of the fiber optic cable.

Claim 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (currently amended): A device comprising:
a fiber optic cable having a fiber optic connector;
a transponder attached to the fiber optic connector;
a substrate adapted for attachment to a panel of a host device;
an antenna attached to the substrate; and
a transceiver electrically connected to the antenna so as to form a reader which is capable
of activating and interrogating the transponder when the transponder is sufficiently close to the
antenna, and wherein
the fiber optic cable was purchased pursuant to a warranty, and wherein
~~A device according to Claim 18 wherein~~ the transponder includes information related to
the warranty.

Claims 20-29 (canceled)